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PREFACE

This index has been prepared to make more readily available to statisticians and research workers the great store of professional knowledge concerning statistical techniques, data, and critical analysis that has been presented in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION during the 52 years since its first number appeared. Much of its contents is primarily of historical interest but a very substantial part is highly significant for current research, teaching, and reference purposes. Use of this index should save much time that otherwise would be spent in hunting for articles on particular subjects or in repeating unwittingly work already completed and published by other workers.

The JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION was founded in 1888 under the title *Quarterly Publications of the American Statistical Association* and continued under this title until 1922 when its present name was adopted. Prior to 1924 each volume consisted of eight numbers issued during two years. Beginning with volume 19 one volume of four numbers has been issued each year. The paging is continuous within each volume except that from 1928 to 1934 a "Proceedings Supplement" with independent paging was issued with each March number, carrying the proceedings and most of the papers of the Annual Meeting. References to these proceedings supplements are indicated by (P) following the page number.

The subject matter of JOURNAL articles has been indexed with a minimum of duplication in order to decrease the volume of entries and facilitate quick reference. In searching for a given subject, therefore, use should be made of the categorical cross-references indicated throughout. References to statistical techniques, e.g., correlation, index numbers, etc., have, in general, been used only when the subject matter involved contains some methodological discussion. For example, an article which presents statistical data on cost of living index numbers would ordinarily be indexed only under "cost of living." If, however, the original article also includes a discussion of the method of computing the cost of living index numbers, entries under "cost of living" and "index numbers, computation," will be found.

References to broad general subjects have been avoided so far as possible. Articles on statistical techniques have been indexed under the commonly accepted terms, e.g., "correlation," "analysis of variance," and not under the general term "statistics." It may be assumed, therefore, that material indexed under broad subject headings refers to discussions such, for example, as an article on the general role of statistics in economic research.

Material referring to specific geographical areas has, in general, been

indexed under the name of the country, state, city or other political subdivision as well as under the appropriate subject heading. An exception to this procedure has been made in the case of discussions of statistical data referring to the United States as a whole; such material is not indexed under the heading "United States." It should also be noted that reference to Federal agencies are shown under "U.S." e.g., "U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics" not "Bureau of Agricultural Economics." The style of the subject index follows that of the *Social Science Abstracts* with capitals and bold face type for major entries that are subdivided in detail.

The index does not contain references to the summaries of discussion at special meetings of the Association and its chapters, the notes on developments in the work of statistical agencies, and notes that are essentially book reviews. Many of these notes contain useful information but to include them would have increased greatly the labor of preparing the index and would have sent users of the index to many references of relatively little importance to them. Readers who wish to locate such material, can usually find it readily enough by using the table of contents at the beginning of each volume. Reports of committees are usually published in the March number or Supplement. A book review usually appears within a year of the publication of the book and can also be located readily by use of the table of contents of the volume current when the book appeared or the volume next following.

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The Columbia University Library generously made available a study room and other facilities.

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